

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/617,755

Examiner

Tarifur R. Chowdhury

Applicant(s)

ISHIHARA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed on 06/08/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,5-12,14 and 16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/08/05 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14 and 16 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. The prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal display panel comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically a first conductive electrode layer being electrically connected to a drive output terminal of the active element, an opening formed in a portion of the color filter, the opening portion is overlapped with the first electrode layer at an area except for the drive output terminal of the active element and a second electrode layer which constitutes the pixel electrode above the color filter layer being electrically connected to the first electrode layer through the opening portion are considered novel.
4. USPAT 6,697,138 (the closest reference) discloses a liquid crystal display device wherein a reflective layer (can be considered as applicant's first electrode layer) is connected to the drain electrode (applicant's drive output terminal of the active

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element), an opening is formed in a portion of the color filter and a second electrode constituting the pixel electrode above the color filter and connected to the drain electrode through the opening. However, the above reference fail to teach or suggest the second electrode layer is connected to the first electrode layer through the opening. Further, US 2004/0043318 and US 2002/0033912 disclose a liquid crystal panel wherein a color filter with opening is formed on a substrate and a second electrode layer constituting the pixel electrode is connected to the drain electrode through the opening. However, the drain electrode cannot be considered as the first electrode layer since the instant invention claims for the first electrode layer to be electrically connected to a drive output terminal (drain/source electrode) of the active element. Further, USPAT 6,031,512 (cited in the IDS) discloses a liquid crystal display panel that includes a light-shielding layer serving as a drain electrode (applicant's first electrode layer) formed on a substrate, a color filter layer (such as red, green or blue) is formed on the first electrode layer and a pixel electrode is connected to the light-shielding layer through the opening formed between the red and green or green and blue color filters. It should be noted here that the opening portion of the color filter in USPAT 6,031,512 is formed between each of red and green and blue not in each of the red or the green or the blue filter, which is the case in the instant invention. Accordingly, all of the references above alone or in combination with any other prior art references fail to teach or suggest the claimed liquid crystal display device.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tarifur R. Chowdhury whose telephone number is (571) 272-2287. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:30-5:00) Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TRC
June 14, 2005



TARIFUR R. CHOWDHURY
PRIMARY EXAMINER